

## REMARKS

### *Election*

The Applicant hereby elects the purported species of Group I, which includes (according to the Examiner) claims 1-23. The Applicant has cancelled the claims corresponding to the purported species of Group II (claims 24-25) as identified by the Examiner. The Applicant's election should not be construed as an acceptance or denial of the purported species identified by the Examiner. The Applicant's election is merely an effort to expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Applicant fully reserves the right to pursue at least the aforementioned cancelled claims through a continuation and/or divisional application.

## CONCLUSION

The Applicant has elected the claims of Group I for continued examination by the Examiner. The Applicant's election should not be construed as acceptance or denial of the aforementioned species as identified by the Examiner but merely an effort to expedite examination of the present application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,  
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